

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

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1. A method for transmitting digital images from a telephone/camera unit to a selected receiver, comprising the steps of:

- (a) providing a handheld telephone/camera unit including:
 - (i) an image sensor for capturing one or more images;
 - (ii) a memory for storing at least one captured image and at least one telephone number;
 - (iii) a telephone keypad; and
 - (iv) a transceiver for transmitting at least one stored image;
- (b) entering a telephone number of a selected receiver using the keypad and storing the entered telephone number in the memory; and
- (c) in response to a user actuating an image capture switch, automatically performing the steps of:
 - (i) using the image sensor to capture at least one still image;
 - (ii) storing the at least one captured still image in the memory;
 - (iii) dialing the stored telephone number to establish a connection between the transceiver of the telephone/camera unit and the selected receiver; and
 - (iv) transmitting at least one stored image to the selected receiver.

2. The method of claim 1 wherein the telephone/camera unit further includes a display screen for displaying the stored captured image.

3. The method of claim 1 wherein the image capture switch is a key on the telephone keypad.

4. The method of claim 1 further including the step of compressing the image data prior to transmission.

5. The method of claim 4 wherein the compressing step uses JPEG compression.

6. A method for transmitting digital images from a digital camera to a selected receiver, comprising the steps of:

- (a) providing a digital camera including:
 - (i) an image sensor for capturing one or more images;
 - (ii) a memory for storing at least one captured image and at least one telephone number; and
 - (iii) a transceiver for transmitting at least one stored image; and
- (b) in response to a user actuating an image capture switch, automatically performing the steps of:
 - (i) using the image sensor to capture at least one still image;
 - (ii) storing the at least one captured still image in the memory;
 - (iii) dialing the stored telephone number to establish a connection between the transceiver of the digital camera and the selected receiver; and
 - (iv) transmitting at least one stored image to the selected receiver.

7. The method of claim 6 wherein the digital camera further includes a display screen for displaying the stored captured image.

8. The method of claim 6 further including the step of compressing the image data prior to transmission.
9. The method of claim 8 wherein the compressing step uses JPEG compression.

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